



# News From MAIENstreet

## A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilmember Brian Maienschein

April 2008 Volume 8, Issue 2



Proudly Representing the  
District Five  
Communities of:

*Carmel Mountain Ranch*  
*Mira Mesa*  
*Rancho Bernardo*  
*Sabre Springs*  
*San Pasqual*  
*Scripps Ranch*  
*Sorrento Mesa*

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## Ban Should Target Oversized Commercial Vehicles City-wide

It is a problem that we are unfortunately all too familiar with. You are leaving a shopping center, residence or school and as you begin to pull out of the drive way, your view is blocked by a large commercial vehicle parked directly in your line of sight. Not only is it unsafe to pull out when you have no clear view of oncoming traffic, but it is an inconvenience to those who need to use the street for legitimate purposes.

The problem of oversized vehicle parking is one that has been debated for years and one that my office has worked tirelessly to find a solution to. Unfortunately, our current laws do not provide the necessary tools to get these vehicles off of our streets and into parking lots and storage facilities where they belong.

While much of the recent discussion has focused on Recreational Vehicle parking, my greatest concern for our district are the large commercial trucks who use our neighborhood streets as storage space. Certain streets throughout our communities are flooded with these large commercial vehicles every morning and evening, creating crowded and unsafe driving conditions for our residents. To add insult to injury, the majority of these trucks have designated parking lots and structures where the vehicle can be safely stored when not in use. The choice to use our neighborhood streets to store these vehicles is often simply an issue of convenience.

For the past few years, I have worked with residents and community groups to try and combat this problem on various streets in our district. This has been a challenge considering that current law allows any vehicle to park on a city street for up to 72 hours at which time the vehicle only has to be moved 1/10 of a mile. Unfortunately, the worst offenders are familiar with this law and know how to take full advantage of it. So, we have tried to be creative in finding other solutions: installing red curbing, two-hour parking restrictions or even in one case, a bike lane to prevent these vehicles from taking over our roads.

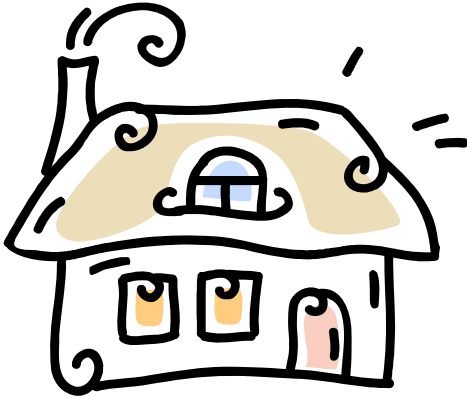
While these improvements are successful on the street in which they are implemented, they unfortunately do not address the bigger picture. The large trucks move to another road to plague other residents and businesses and the process starts all over again. In addition, these solutions are unable to target the large vehicles and therefore subject all residents to the same restrictions.

It is for this reason that I have advocated for an ordinance that would target oversized commercial vehicles and prohibit them from using our streets for storage purposes. While the issue of responsible RV parking is certainly of concern, my efforts have and will continue to be focused on addressing large commercial vehicle parking.

At a recent council meeting, I asked the Mayor to return with a detailed analysis on a city-wide large vehicle ban in addition to the pilot program that had been proposed by my Council colleagues. The pilot program targets recreational vehicles and does not extend beyond the beach communities. I believe that some form of a city-wide ban is the best way to address a city-wide problem. I look forward to the Mayor's response and am hopeful that an appropriately worded and executed ordinance will make our streets and our neighborhoods safer for all residents.

## Councilmember Maienschein Celebrates Rebuilding of First Home

On February 16, 2007, I was proud to join with San Diego Charger Shawne Merriman to celebrate the completion of the first home rebuilt since the October 2007 wildfires destroyed 365 houses in Rancho Bernardo.



This is a momentous occasion and I am so proud to be a part of it. The community of Rancho Bernardo has made incredible progress just six short months into the rebuilding process. I have no doubt that we will continue to be successful in the future.

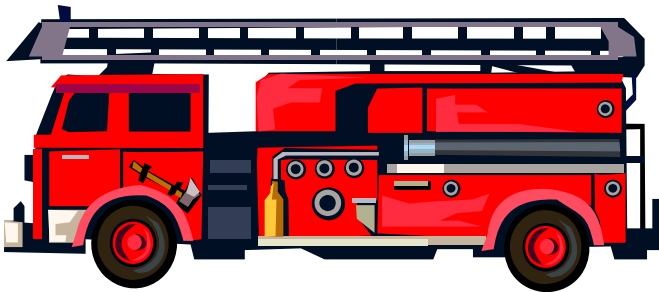
The timely completion of this first home is further evidence of a very successful rebuilding process and could not have been done without the establishment of a Local Assistance Center nearly identical to the one I set up in the aftermath of the Cedar Fire in 2003. Among other things, the Local Assistance Center provides staff from the City's Development Services Department whose full time responsibility is to process and issue permits for burned down homes in Rancho Bernardo.

To date, 70 building permits have been issued for single family homes and over 45 permits have been issued for repairs to fire damaged homes. The Development Services Department is averaging less than ten days to issue a building permit once plans have been submitted.

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## One Million Dollars Approved for RB Fire Station Repairs

I am pleased to announce that on February 19, 2008, the San Diego City Council voted to approve my proposal to allocate approximately one million dollars for renovation of Rancho Bernardo Fire Station 33. I have been working for several months with local community leaders to identify funding that would make significant improvements to the 36-year old structure.



This has not been an easy task, but I thought this would be very beneficial to our community. I am pleased that my Council colleagues supported me on this important project.

Planned renovations include constructing a new dormitory and fitness area, repaving the parking lot, installing two new apparatus doors, and upgrading the kitchen and electrical system. Construction on these renovations is expected to begin in June of this year.

The involvement and support of our local community on this project has been great and it is a true testament to how much the residents of Rancho Bernardo value the men and women who serve them. I am confident that these renovations will help the men and women of Fire Station 33 to continue to provide a higher standard of service to our community.

## Malenschein Gives SRCA \$25,000 for Field Improvements

I was happy to announce at this month's Scripps Ranch Civic Association meeting that I have allocated \$25,000 in Infrastructure funds for the renovation and maintenance of the Jerabek Elementary School Joint-Use Field. This \$25,000, accompanied by the previous \$20,000 I was able to obtain, will raise the low points of the field and provide a much needed renovation of the turf. The preliminary work for this project will begin in the next two months, with most of the work occurring in August and September. This will coordinate with Jerabek's class schedule and will take advantage of the good summer weather.

I appreciate that the community of Scripps Ranch has taken the initiative to do what needed to be done by pledging community funds for this project. However, I feel that the money that was pledged by the SRCA and the Recreation Council for this project can and should be spent on other worthy projects around the community. Now they will be able to do so.

It is my hope that with the completion of this work, Jerabek Field will once again operate at full capacity for the Scripps Ranch community.



## Councilmember Maienschein Announces a Decrease in Crime



I am proud to announce that the 2008 first quarter crime statistics for the City of San Diego show a 5% decrease in the citywide crime rate over the same period in 2007 and a 14.9% reduction from 2006.

In addition, from January 1 to March 31, 2008, the first quarter crime index statistics show that the total number of crimes committed citywide is down 4.5% from the same period in 2007, and down 12.8% from 2006.

One of my top priorities during my term on the City Council has been working to ensure that our Police Department has the public safety resources necessary to combat crime in a City of our size. I want to personally thank the members of the San Diego Police Department for their service. This continuing drop in crime is directly attributed to their hard work, professionalism and dedication to keeping our communities safe.



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**<http://www.sandiego.gov/city-council/district-5>**

From my website, you can also sign up to receive **e-News from MAIENstreet** every month via e-mail.

It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!